

Application Number 10/540659
Response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

The specification has been amended as described above. In addition to editorial revisions, in the specification, formula 1 and formula 2 have been amended to formula B' and formula A', respectively, to show that formulas B' and A' are members of general formulas B and A, respectively, as supported by formulas B and A and formulas B' and A' in the specification, for example, at page 4, line 23 – page 5, line 1 and page 7, lines 7-15. Chemical names of BPDA and BPADA have been amended to clarify the positions of the substituents as supported by formulas A' and B', respectively (formerly, formulas 2 and 1, respectively) at page 7, lines 7-15.

Claims 18 and 21 have been amended to include limitations as supported by table 5 of the specification at page 24 in addition to editorial revisions.

Claim 20 has been amended to clarify that the subject matter is the precursor, which includes oligomerized polyamic acid that is formed in the solvent including the cyclic compound as supported by the specification at page 15, lines 22-28, in particular, as shown by the viscosity.

Claims 18 and 20-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishikawa et al. (Japanese Patent Application publication 2001-264771). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Nishikawa merely discloses 3,3',4,4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic dianhydride, i.e., BPDA, and 4,4'-bis (3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy) diphenyl propane dianhydride, i.e., BPADA, in a long list of polyamic acids (A) (see pages 1-2, paras. [0004] and [0005] of the translation). The reference, however, fails to point toward a polyimide precursor liquid composition that includes the particular combination including both BPDA and BPADA at the particular molar ratio required by claims 18 and 21, in which BPDA is a major

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component, and does not disclose any examples using the particular combination at the particular molar ratio. Thus, claims 18 and 21 are distinguished from Nishikawa. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 18 and 20-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rushkin et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004-0161619). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Rushkin merely lists 3,3',4,4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic acid dianhydride (BPDA) in a long list of monomer candidates and discloses use of BPDA with oxydianiline (ODA) in a comparative example 1 (see page 8, paras. [0068]-[0069]). Thus, the reference fails to disclose a formulation including the particular tetracarboxylic dianhydride containing BPDA and BPADA at the particular ratio as claims 18 and 21 require or an example that uses the particular tetracarboxylic dianhydride at the particular molar ratio. Accordingly, claims 18 and 21 are distinguished from Rushkin, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 18-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,670,342). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Peterson discloses use of BPADA in a coating composition of a wire substance (see coln. 3, lines 26-32). However, Peterson fails to disclose a composition including BPDA or the particular tetracarboxylic dianhydride containing BPDA and BPADA at the particular molar ratio as claims 18 and 21 require or an example that uses the particular tetracarboxylic dianhydride at the particular molar ratio. Accordingly, claims 18 and 21 are distinguished from Peterson, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 20 has been amended editorially. Accordingly, this claim is definite, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

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In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.



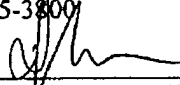
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Respectfully submitted,

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